

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 22, with the following

Useful urease sequences may be identified in public databases, e.g., Entrez (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Entrez/>). Additionally, primers that are useful for amplifying ureases from a wide variety of organisms may be utilized as described by Baker, K.M. and Collier, J.L.

(http://www.science.smith.edu/departments/Biology/Ikatz/NEMEB_webpage/abstracts.html) or using the CODEHOP (Consensus-DEgenerate Hybrid Oligonucleotide Primer) as described in Rose, *et al.* (1998) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 26:1628.